

Message Text

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53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 ACDA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SSO-00 /089 W

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P R 121012Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4565

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 3574

GENEVA FOR DEP ASST SECY SAUNDERS, MEPC DEL

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, PLO, XF

SUBJECT: CONTINUED SYRIAN REACTION TO SINAI ACCORD

1. ASAD SPEECH AT BANQUET IN PRAGUE REPORTED IN SEPT. 11 PRESS. MOST IMPORTANT POINT WE BELIEVE WAS STATEMENT THAT SYRIA PREPARED TO FOLLOW "POLITICAL ACTION" TO ACHIEVE ITS AIMS IN ARAB STRUGGLE FOR PEACE. ASAD DEFINED POLITICAL ACTION AS "WHATEVER STRENGTHENS ALL MEANS AND METHODS WHICH LEAD TO COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND INSURE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. IN OUR VIEW, POLITICAL ACTION CANNOT POSSIBLY WEAKEN THESE MEANS AND METHODS OR LEAD US TO AIMS OTHER THAN THESE AIMS."

2. FONMIN KHADDAM RETURNED TO DAMASCUS SEPT. 10 FROM GULF

3. PRESS REPORTED DEMONSTRATION IN RAQQA TO EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO SINAI AGREEMENT "WHICH ACCORDED TO U.S. AND ISRAEL PRESENCE IN ARAB LANDS." TELEGRAMS OF SUPPORT FOR
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BAATH PARTY STATEMENT STILL BEING RECEIVED FROM ARAB SEMI-OFFICIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

4. PLO EXCOMM AND CENTRAL COUNCIL ISSUED STATEMENT SEPT. 10 CONDEMNING SINAI AGREEMENT FOR DEVIATING FROM ARAB SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS AND CAUSING BREAK IN ARAB SOLIDARITY. STATEMENT REQUESTED "IMMEDIATE AND GENERAL ACTION TO CONFRONT AMERICAN ACTION WHICH PRODUCED THIS AGREEMENT," AND CALLED FOR IRAQI, LIBYAN AND ALGERIAN SUPPORT. NATIONALIST FORCES IN EGYPT WERE EXHORTED TO "ASSUME THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CONFRONTING THIS CONSPIRATORIAL AGREEMENT."

5. AL-BAATH COLUMNIST COMPARED SINAI AGREEMENT TO 1938 MUNICH ACCORD AND ADDED THAT "MOST SERIOUS PART OF AGREEMENT WAS PERMITTING AMERICAN TECHNICIANS TO BE STATIONED ON ARAB LANDS." HE CONCLUDED COLUMN BY ASKING WHETHER "HIDDEN MOTIVES" COMPELLED EGYPT TO PAY SUCH HIGH PRICE FOR SINAI OIL WELLS.

6. AL-THAWRAH COLUMNIST FOUND CONTRADICTION BETWEEN ARTICLE OF SINAI AGREEMENT STIPULATING NONUSE OF FORCE AND ISRAEL'S REQUEST FOR SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS FROM U.S. "IF DISPUTE CANNOT BE SETTLED BY ARMED FORCE, WHY THIS INCREASING DEMAND BY ISRAEL FOR ARMS ON ONE HAND AND WHY COMPLETE COMPLIANCE BY U.S. ON OTHER HAND?"
MURPHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PEACE OBSERVATION MISSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DAMASC03574
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750316-0605
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750955/aaaabwah.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAR 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <30 JAN 2004 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTINUED SYRIAN REACTION TO SINAI ACCORD
TAGS: PFOR, SY, XF, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006